Present simple I

SEMESTRAL UNI - 2023 II

Simple Present Tense

The simple present tense in English is used to describe an action that is regular, true or normal.
We use the present tense:

1. For repeated or regular actions in the present time period

- I **take** the train to the office.
- The train to Berlin **leaves** every hour.
- John **sleeps** eight hours every night during the week.

2. For facts

- The President of The USA **lives** in The White House.
- A dog **has** four legs.
- We **come** from Switzerland.

3. For habits

- I **get up** early every day.
- Carol **brushes** her teeth twice a day.
- They **travel** to their country house every weekend.

4. For things that are always / generally true

- It **rains** a lot in winter.
- The Queen of England **lives** in Buckingham Palace.
- They **speak** English at work.

Verb Conjugation & Spelling

We form the present tense using the base form of the infinitive (without the TO).
In general, in the third person we add '**S**' in the third person.

Subject	Verb	The Rest of the sentence
I / you / we / they	speak / learn	English at home
he / she / it	speaks / learns	English at home

The spelling for the verb in the third person differs depending on the ending of that verb:

1. For verbs that end in -**O**, -**CH**, -**SH**, -**SS**, -**X**, or -**Z** we add -**ES** in the third person.
- go – goes
- catch – catches
- wash – washes
- kiss – kisses
- fix – fixes
- buzz – buzzes

2. For verbs that end in a **consonant** + **Y**, we remove the **Y** and add -**IES**.
- marry – marries
- study – studies
- carry – carries
- worry – worries

NOTE: For verbs that end in a **vowel** + **Y**, we just add -**S**.
- play – plays
- enjoy – enjoys
- say – says

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Adverbs of Frequency

What are adverbs of frequency?

Adverbs that change or qualify the meaning of a sentence by telling us how often or how frequently something happens are defined as adverbs of frequency.

An adverb of frequency is exactly what it sounds like – an **adverb of time**. Adverbs of frequency always describe how often something occurs, either in definite or indefinite terms. An **adverb** that describes definite frequency is one such as weekly, daily, or yearly. An adverb describing indefinite frequency doesn't specify an exact time frame; examples are sometimes, often, and rarely.

Adverbs of Frequency Rules

These simple rules for adverbs of frequency will help you to use them correctly:
- Always use adverbs of frequency to discuss how often something happens.
- Adverbs of frequency are often used to indicate routine or repeated activities, so they are often used with the present simple tense.
- If a sentence has only one **verb**, place the adverb of frequency in the middle of the sentence so that it is positioned after the subject but before the verb. For example: Tom never flies. He always takes the bus.
- When a sentence contains more than one verb, place the adverb of frequency before the main verb. For example: They have often visited Europe.
- When using an adverb of frequency in the negative or in forming a question, place it before the main verb. For example: Do you usually get up so late?